



Crop Progress and Condition

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Virginia State University
Virginia Cooperative Extension Service
Virginia Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

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Agricultural News: Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.9. Weather conditions improved during the week with precipitation and warmer temperatures; many farmers were able to plant crops and grass is growing. However, some areas of the State are drier. Farming activities for the week included planting corn, cotton, peanuts, potatoes, and soybeans.

SOIL MOISTURE for week ending 05/06/18

	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	%	%	%	%
Topsoil	2	22	74	2
Subsoil	3	19	78	-

- Represents zero.

CROP and LIVESTOCK CONDITIONS for week ending 05/06/18

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	%	%	%	%	%
Apples	-	-	25	75	-
Grapes	-	-	25	75	-
Peaches	-	-	22	68	10
Barley	-	2	19	67	12
Hay, Alfalfa	-	12	37	50	1
Hay, Other	1	10	25	63	1
Potatoes, Summer	-	-	17	83	-
Winter Wheat	-	3	14	73	10
Pasture	4	15	36	35	10
Livestock	1	4	35	53	7

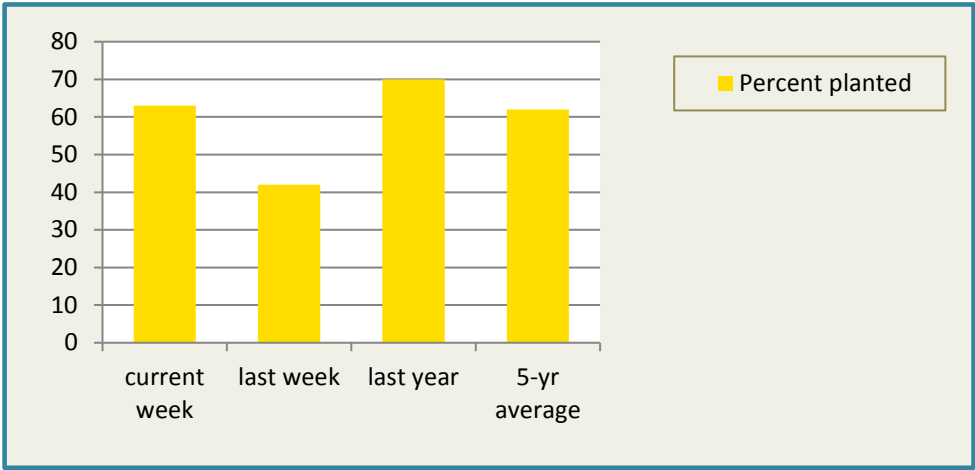
-Represents zero.

CROP PROGRESS for week ending 05/06/18

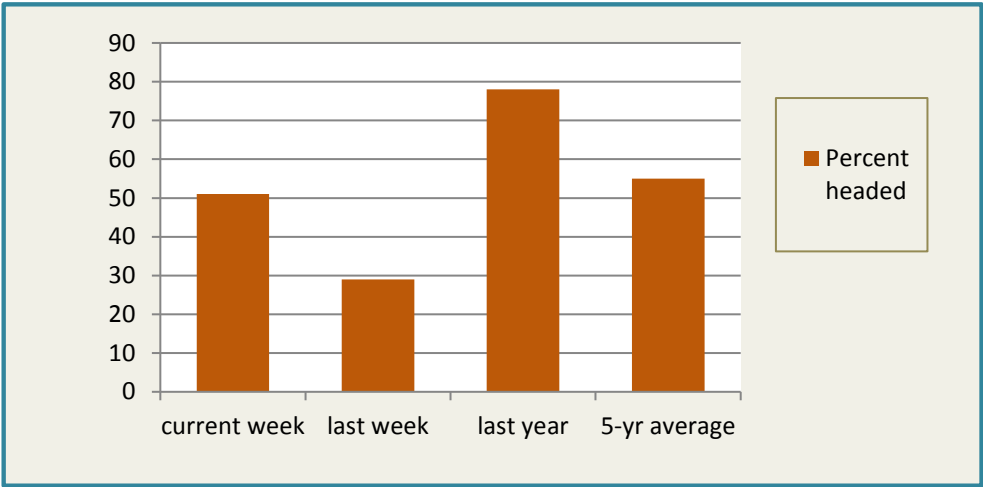
Crop Stage	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Yr Avg
	%	%	%	%
Corn planted	63	42	70	62
Corn emerged	31	5	37	35
Cotton planted	22	5	30	14
Peanuts planted	16	1	18	11
Potatoes, Summer planted	84	75	92	-
Soybeans planted	9	2	10	6
Tobacco, Burley transplanted	8	1	9	-
Tobacco, Fire-cured transplanted	6	-	10	-
Tobacco, Flue-cured transplanted	14	4	16	16
Winter Wheat headed	51	29	78	55

- Represents data not available or zero.

CORN PLANTED for week ending 05/06/18



WINTER WHEAT HEADED for week ending 05/06/18



Weather Summary- For the week ending May 6, 2018

City	Temperature						Growing degree days (modified base 50)		Precipitation				
	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to May 5	Mar. 1 to May 5 norm	Last Week	Since Mar. 1	Mar. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	79	48	88	38	64	5	446	478	0.00	7.88	0.00	16.54	2.04
Norfolk	80	56	89	43	68	6	490	506	0.00	7.30	-0.72	12.54	-2.75
Richmond	81	50	91	36	66	5	492	555	0.00	5.91	-1.97	11.76	-2.58
Roanoke	80	52	90	41	66	6	463	NA	0.00	7.42	-0.64	14.74	0.29
Wash/Dulles	78	47	90	31	63	6	363	NA	0.24	5.89	-1.47	12.38	-0.79

* Normal based on 1971-2000 data. NA-Not available. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center <http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov>. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY – Comments are based on remarks made by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

NORTHERN

ROCKINGHAM (Doug Horn)

Four consecutive days greater than 80 degrees. Much needed rainfall Saturday and Sunday. The eastern part of the county only received 0.1 inch while the western part received 3/4 inch. Small grain silage is being harvested, numerous manure applications and corn planting began. Many pastures overgrazed for this time of year. A controlled burn in the National Forest blanketed the county with smoke most of the week.

WESTERN

ROCKBRIDGE (Thomas Stanley)

A mostly dry week with summer-like temperatures Wednesday - Saturday that allowed corn planting to begin in earnest. Rain showers Saturday evening and Sunday brought as much as .75" to northwestern Rockbridge with declining amounts further south. Most farmers are current on field work other than corn planting.

BATH/HIGHLAND (John Benner)

Warm weather finally arrived and grass got growing.

CENTRAL

AMELIA (Laura Siegle)

Conditions have been generally favorable here. The week was relatively dry, but with a few showers over the weekend. Some planted corn fields have emerged.

CAROLINE (Mike Broaddus)

Nothing abnormal except now we finally have good growing weather.

CHESTERFIELD/GOOCHLAND (Charlotte Maxwell)

Hay production and corn planting are way behind their normal dates.

EASTERN

KING GEORGE (Mike Broaddus)

Nothing abnormal except now we finally have good growing weather.

CHARLES CITY (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting finished up for most folks over the weekend. Soybean, cotton, and peanut planting has started across the area. Rainfall was very isolated over the weekend with most areas not receiving any measurable moisture. Barley and oat hay was cut and baled during the week.

SOUTHWESTERN

SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Dry weather is continuing to impact pasture and meadow growth. Soil is drying to the point that the topsoil is beginning to crack and grass has quit growing. We are entering a critical time and in much need of rain. Strawberry crop looks good, but is slower picking than normal due to berries not ripening/sizing up in these cooler temperatures.

SOUTHERN

FRANKLIN (Chris Brown)

Cool-season perennial forage seems very thin this spring. Pasture and first cutting hay yields will be poor.

SOUTHEASTERN

BRUNSWICK (Cynthia Gregg)

Planting was full swing last week. Sunday afternoon/evening showers/storms caused some ponding in some fields as well as some lodging of small grains. The tobacco in most areas is standing up well. Corn is coming up nicely.

PRINCE GEORGE/SURRY/SUSSEX (Scott Reiter)

Corn planting finished up for most folks over the weekend. Soybean, cotton, and peanut planting has started across the area. Rainfall was very isolated over the weekend with most areas not receiving any measurable moisture. Barley and oat hay was cut and baled during the week.

GREENSVILLE (Sara Rutherford)

In low-input pastures, buttercups are very apparent this week. Planting in full swing with rain forecasted this weekend.